

**GROUP #3**  
**DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS REGARDING HOME AND COMMUNITY  
BASED ALTERNATIVES TO PSYCHIATRIC RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT  
FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN**

**SUMMARY**

The Deficit Reduction Act provides for the funding of 5-year demonstration projects in up to 10 states to test the effectiveness in improving or maintaining a child's functional level and cost-effectiveness of providing coverage of home and community-based alternatives to psychiatric residential treatment for children.

**SWOT ANALYSIS – TOP THREE SELECTED BY SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS**

**Strengths**

1. Renewed combined interest/agency collaboration on moving kids into community
2. Some provider capacity already in place to provide therapeutic community-based services
3. Increased awareness to make it happen

**Weaknesses**

1. Providers are rooted in structure
2. Lack of community-based services
3. Limited state money for C & A services and failure to maximize federal dollars

**Opportunities**

1. Children are served and raised in their communities
2. Families are supported
3. Opportunity to create a new system of care utilizing best practices

**Threats**

1. Inadequate funding
2. Need for systematic infrastructure and oversight
3. Politics of acceptance of change

**Bottom Line: This group recommends that Georgia implement this option**